Application No.: 10/828,991

Office Action dated: December 21, 2010

Reply dated: February 21, 2011

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for sharing files with remote users, the method comprising:

maintaining a file stored in a file source, said file being associated with a file owner, wherein the file source authenticates the file owner by using a set of credentials assigned to the file owner, and wherein the set of credentials entitles the file owner to modify said file on the file source when properly authenticated:

accepting, at a proxy server, a request from a file sharer the file owner to share [[a]] said file in an original file location of the file sharer with a remote user, the file being located at [[a]] the file source inside an internal private network of the file sharer owner, said private network having a firewall;

obtaining, by the proxy server, [[a]] the set of credentials assigned to from the file sharer in response to said request to share the file, wherein the set of credentials are used will allow the proxy server to authenticate itself against the file source as the file owner in order to access the file in the file source original-location;

generating a proxy representation on the proxy server wherein the proxy representation enables the remote user remote access to modify the file in the original location file source inside the private network, wherein the proxy representation contains location information used by the proxy server to locate the file inside said private network, and wherein the proxy server contains the set of credentials of the file sharer that are needed to access the file on the file source;

receiving a request from the remote user to access the proxy representation on the proxy server;

providing, the remote user access to the proxy representation and receiving one or more modifications via the proxy representation on the proxy server from the remote user;

wherein the proxy server logs into and interacts with logging into the file source by the proxy server using the set of credentials assigned to the file owner and wherein the proxy server modifies modifying the file in the file source by the proxy server using the set of credentials provided by the file sharer owner;

wherein after the updating, the proxy server modifies the file in the file source by using the set of credentials assigned to the file owner, when the file sharer accesses the file in the original location, changes to the proxy representation made by the remote user are reflected in the file in the original location.